

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6384

BILL NUMBER: HB 1519

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 20, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Compulsory School Attendance.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. VanDenburgh

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a student to be at least 18 years of age in order to drop out of school. It repeals provisions permitting a student less than 18 years of age to drop out of school under certain circumstances. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill could decrease the number of students that withdraw from school. The bill could increase the state tuition support distributions the year following the withdrawal if the student was not in 12th grade when they might have withdrawn. The impact would depend on the number of additional students and if they attend growing or declining schools. State tuition support is limited by both the appropriation and a calendar year maximum distribution. If the bill cause the distribution to exceed either the fiscal year or calendar year limits, then the distribution would be proportionately reduced.

Background: During the 2009-2010 school year about 5,202 students withdrew from school for various reasons. About 1,940 of the students were less than 18 years of age. The following table summarizes the primary reason for the withdrawal from school according to the Department's dropout report by age.

DROPOUT CODES	Under 18	Over 18	Total
Record of School Failure	96	398	494
Disinterest in Curriculum	463	1,265	1,728
Interpersonal Problems	24	67	91
Incorrigibility	21	40	61
Need to Earn Money	232	248	480
Poor Home Environment	16	33	49
Drug Abuse	11	6	17
Marriage	7	9	16
Pregnancy	47	53	100
Friends or Peer Pressure	1	1	2
Armed Services Enlistment	6	13	19
Court Ordered	143	4	147
Unknown or No Shows	26	894	920
Truancy (Underage No Shows)	329	-	329
Expulsion	494	195	689
Missing but located	24	18	42
Failure of GOE	-	18	18
Total	1,940	3,262	5,202

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The impact on schools would depend on if additional staff or space was needed for the additional students. The additional impact per school would probably be minor.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Ashley Gibson, Department of Education.

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